



## FOR MEDIA PLANNING PURPOSES

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
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January 6, 2015

### **ADVISORY: Montana PSC to hold roundtable discussion to evaluate railroad safety program**

**HELENA, Mont. – January 6, 2016** – Following the establishment of an investigative docket back in November to evaluate state railroad safety programs, the Montana Public Service Commission has scheduled a roundtable discussion for **Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at 9:30 AM** to gather further input on the issue.

The Commission hopes to use the discussion as an opportunity to hear a wide range of opinions and suggestions for improving railroad safety in Montana. Stakeholders are invited to attend the roundtable and participate in the discussion. Members of the general public are also invited to attend and provide comment.

To improve the quality of discussion, the Commission is seeking comments from stakeholders and the public on the following issues:

- Conduct a rail safety risk assessment;
- Establish rail safety goals and objectives;
- Develop a rail safety plan for Montana that is reviewed annually with the Federal Railroad Administration;

- Engage with Montana Disaster and Emergency Services, and other state and federal agencies;
- Engage in emergency planning to ensure the rail safety program is proactively addressing risk in the state; and
- Conduct rulemaking on local safety concerns of blocked railroad crossings in accordance with Mont. Code Ann. § 69-14-111(2)(a) and 49 U.S.C. 20106.

In order to gather information for the roundtable discussion, the Commission requests that interested persons and entities submit written comments on the issues listed above no later than January 15, 2016.

Written comments must be mailed to the Commission at PO Box 202601, Helena, MT 59620, or hand-delivered to the Commission at 1701 Prospect Ave, Helena, MT. Comments should also be submitted electronically by e-filing them on the Commission's website at <http://psc.mt.gov> ("Account Login/Registration" under "Electronic Documents" tab in Docket Number N2015.11.84.). Public comments may also be submitted to the Commission through the Commission's website <http://psc.mt.gov/consumers/comments/>.

**WHAT:** Roundtable Discussion to Evaluate Railroad Safety Program

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 20 @ 9:30 AM

**WHERE:** Montana PSC Office, 1701 Prospect AVE, Helena, MT

To view the notice of public meeting, visit: <http://1.usa.gov/1NJOLEa>

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